

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCSE-00 PRS-01 SIG-02 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 SP-02 SS-15  
NSC-05 PPTE-00 SY-05 OPR-02 L-03 DHA-02 TRSE-00  
INSE-00 H-02 DEAE-00 SNM-02 /077 R

DRAFTED BY SCA:JWCARTER:RDJ  
APPROVED BY SCA:LFWALENTYNOWICZ  
SCS:FSTEVENS  
ARA/MEX:GFALK  
S/PRS:FBROWN

-----062211Z 096324 /71

R 062110Z JAN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMCONSUL TIJUANA  
INFO AMCONSUL MAZATLAN  
AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO  
AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ  
AMCONSUL MERIDA  
AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA  
AMCONSUL MONTERREY  
AMCONSUL MATAMOROS  
AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO

UNCLAS STATE 002839

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJECT: TRAVEL ADVISORY STATE OF SINALOA

REF: TIJUANA 005 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT (SCA) SPOKESMAN, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS  
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FROM AAA, ON DECEMBER 29, 1976 ADVISED THAT DEPARTMENT WAS  
CONCERNED ABOUT SAFETY OF AMERICAN TOURISTS TRAVELING BY  
MOTOR VEHICLE IN OR THROUGH THE STATE OF SINALOA. SPOKES-  
MAN STATED SUCH TRAVEL ENTAILED SUBSTANTIAL RISKS.

2. AAA ALSO ASKED IF DEPARTMENT WAS CONCERNED ABOUT TRAVEL  
IN OTHER AREAS OF MEXICO AND SPECIFICALLY ASKED ABOUT BAJA.

DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN STATED THAT DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN WAS LIMITED-TO STATE OF SINALOA AT RHIATISE. DEPARTMENT DID NOT REPEAT NOT ADVISE AAA FOR OR AGAINST TRAVEL INBAJA, AND AAA PRESS RELEASE OF 12/30/76 CONCERNING SINALOA DOES NOT ATTRIBUTE ANY WARNING AGAINST TRAVEL IN BAJA TO STATE DEPARTMENT.

3. AAA MADE PRESS RELEASE ON DECEMBER 21, WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS ADVISED AGAINST TRAVEL THROUGH REMOTE STRETCHES OF BAJA CALIFORNIA. THIS WAS MADE PRIOR TO CONDITIONS IN SINALOA BECOMING AN ISSUE. THIS AAA

GUIDANCE WAS BASED ON THEIR OWN SOURCES, HOWEVER THEY DID CALL DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS THEIR PRESS RELEASE AND WE CONFIRMED REPORTS OF INCIDENTS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA TO THEM, AND SUPPLIED THEM WITH GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TRAVEL IN MEXICO, INCLUDING THE SINALOA SITUATION AT THAT TIME. THE AAA PRESS RELEASE OF 12/21/76 DID NOT ATTRIBUTE ANY OF THEIR INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. THEIR RELEASE OF 12/30/76 MADE REFERENCE TO THE EARLIER RELEASE, STATING THAT SINCE DECEMBER 21, THE SITUATION HAD GOTTEN WORSE.

4. REPORTER FROM SAN DIEGO UNION CALLED DEPARTMENT (SCA) ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 TO INQUIRE ABOUT OUR STATEMENT TO AAA AND SPECIFICALLY ABOUT TRAVEL IN BAJA. SHE WAS TOLD THAT DEPARTMENT HAD NOT ADVISED AGAINST TRAVEL IN BAJA AND SHE WAS GIVEN SUBSTANCE OF DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE. SHE INDICATED SHE WOULD LATER BE INTERVIEWING UNCLASSIFIED

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REPRESENTATIVE OF MEXICAN TOURIST OFFICE CONCERNING STORY AND WOULD RELAY DEPARTMENT'S POSITION ON TRAVEL IN MEXICO.

5. REPORTER WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN SEVERAL OTHER LOCAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING "CLEANING UP NOGALES", WHICH SPOKESMAN STATED WERE NOT PART OF OUR PRESENT CONCERN, BUT THAT WE WERE MONITORING SITUATION IN ALL OF MEXICO CLOSELY FOR ANY INDICATIONS OF DANGER TO AMERICAN TRAVELERS. HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME, STATEMENT APPLIED ONLY TO SINALOA.

6. CONGEN TIJUANA SHOULD CONTINUE TO RESPOND TO ALL INQUIRIES ABOUT TRAVEL CONDITIONS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA BY PROVIDING COMPLETE FACTUAL INFORMATION, BUT WITHOUT DRAWING CONCLUSIONS OR MAKING SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO TRAVELER REGARDING ADVISABILITY OF TRAVEL IN AREA. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES ALL CONSULS REPORTING ON TRAVEL AND SAFETY CONDITIONS IN MEXICO. ON BASIS OF THIS

REPORTING DEPARTMENT CAN DETERMINE IF AND WHEN FUTURE  
TRAVEL ADVISORIES MAY BECOME NECESSARY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** CASC, MX  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009